

REMARKS

I. Status of Claims

Claims 1 to 23 were previously cancelled via a preliminary amendment dated June 7, 2006. Claims 38 to 42 are cancelled without prejudice in response to the Restriction Requirement. Claims 24 to 37 are now pending. It is respectfully submitted that no new matter was added in this amendment.

II. Restriction Requirement

In the Office Action, the Examiner asserted that the present application contains claims which are directed to the following two distinct inventions and stated that restriction to one of the two inventions is required:

Group I: Claims 24 to 37, drawn to a method of manufacturing a gas turbine component;
or

Group II: Claims 38 to 42, drawn to a gas turbine component.

In response, Applicants elect, without traverse, Group I (claims 24-37), drawn to a method of manufacturing a gas turbine component. Claims 38 to 42 were related to the invention of Group II, and, therefore, were canceled as reading on the non-elected invention. It is respectfully submitted that pending claims 24 and 25 encompass and are readable on the elected invention.

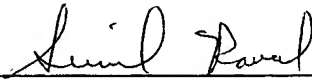
Conclusion

This Response is being submitted in response to the Office Action dated November 14, 2008 in the above-identified application. This Response to the November 14, 2008 Office Action is being filed before the three (3) month statutory period set forth therein, and this Response is being timely filed. It is believed that no fee is due at this time. If it is determined that any additional fee is due in connection with this filing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge said fees to Deposit Account No. 50-0552.

An early and favorable action on the merits is earnestly requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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